GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4769
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010
ASSETS OF RICH AND POOR
Yadav Shri Hukamdeo Narayan

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the value of the total assets of top ten industrial houses alongwith the total assets of the persons living below the poverty line which constitute the 26 per cent of the population;

(b) the scheme prepared by the Government to remove and mitigate the economic disparity between the rich and poor;

(c) whether the Government has proposed to amend the Constitution for making the provision that a person can adopt one occupation i.e. farming, service and business and to make provision for more than one occupation for unemployed and the poor; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSION(SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) & (b): The information on the assets of industrial houses and the assets of the people living below poverty line is not maintained in the Planning Commission. However, National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in their recent study titled 'How India Earns Spends and Saves', has brought out that bottom 20% of the population shared 5.2% of the total income where as top 20% of the population shared 52.7% of the total income in 2004-05.

Mitigation of the economic disparities between the rich and the poor is one of the primary policy objectives of the development planning in India. The Central government is already implementing a number of flagship programmes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Swaranjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Swarna Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan (SSA), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Rural Drinking Water Supply and Total Sanitation Campaign, Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) etc towards this end. In addition, launching of Rashtriya Swasthaya Bima Yojana, Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana and Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) are the initiatives to strengthen the social security system.

(c): No, Madam.

(d): Does not arise.